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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: STONES et al.
Serial No.: n/a
Filed: Contemporaneous Herewith
International Application No.: PCT/GB2004/004110
International Filing Date: September 23, 2004
Entitled: Vacuum Pump
Atty. Dkt.: M03B354

Group Art Unit: n/a
Examiner: n/a

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Examiner's attention is directed to the documents identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B "Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant." A copy of each non-US patent document is enclosed.

Please consider all the listed documents and list them on the cover sheet of any patents to issue from the subject application.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or within three months of the date of entry of the National Phase of an international application or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), no additional fee is due. As a precaution, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 02-2865 any fee required by this submission.

Very truly yours,

Date:

March 20, 2006
The BOC Group, Inc.
Legal Services - Intellectual Property
575 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07974
(908) 771-6469



Ira Lee Zebrak
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 31,147

Attachments
Forms PTO/SB/08A & PTO/SB/08B
Cited References

ILZ:bjl

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Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of 2

Filing Date

STONES et al.

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

M03B354

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ^o
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	3	DE 3531942 A1	04-30-1986	Japan Atomic Energy		
	4	EP 0 959 253 A2	11-24-1999	The BOC Group plc		
	5	FR 2 262 742 A	09-26-1975	Leybold-Heraeus GmbH		
	6	JP 02136595 A	05-25-1990	Anelva Corp.		

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/08B (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 2 of 2	Application Number	
	Filing Date	
	First Named Inventor	STONES et al.
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	M03B354	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	7	TAKEYASU NOBORU, HAYASHI YOSHITAKA; Abstract of JP2136595 A, "Vacuum Pump," May 25, 1990, Anelva Corp.	
	8	United Kingdom Search Report of Application No. GB0322888.9; Date of search: June 18, 2004	
	9	United Kingdom Search Report of Application No. GB0322888.9; Date of search: June 21, 2004	
	10	International Search Report of International Application No. PCT/GB2004/004110; Date of mailing of the international search report: January 17, 2005	
	11	Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority of International Application No. PCT/GB2004/004110; Date of mailing: January 17, 2005	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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